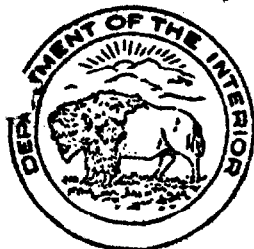


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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1952

FWS ISSUES FISHERY OUTLOOK REPORT FOR JANUARY-MARCH

Markets for edible fishery products will be fairly firm during the first quarter of 1952 but those for most by-products will be unsettled, according to the quarterly outlook report released today by the Fish and Wildlife Service's Branch of Commercial Fisheries.

Catches of fish and shellfish, the report predicts, will reach their low point for the year during this quarter but will increase toward the end of March. Cold-storage stocks of fishery products, which are now unusually large, will diminish rapidly during the quarter. This decline in holdings is expected to be somewhat later is reaching full proportions this year because Lent, which starts February 27, is about three weeks later than last year.

A strong market is forecast for canned salmon and sardines, fresh and frozen mackerel, croakers, and bluefish. The market is expected to be active, or fairly active, for shad. Firm markets or steady markets are forecast for such important products as haddock, cod, halibut, sea trout, swordfish, lobsters, oysters, whitefish and lake trout.

The market for fish meal is also seen as steady for the period. The report cites the prospect of unsettled markets for butterfish, ocean perch (rosefish), whiting, clabs, salt herring, fish oils, and fish-liver oils. A dull market is indicated for carp.

Twelfth in the quarterly outlook report series, this forecast was prepared by Ralph Russell, economist of the Service's Branch of Commercial Fisheries. It consists of 30 pages and includes more than 50 charts illustrating some of the major factors in current market situation.

Copies of the Quarterly Outlook for Marketing Fishery Products, January-March 1952, Fishery Leaflet 336K, can be obtained without charge from the Division of Information, Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington 25, D. C.

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